

Know and Do—Hermeneutics

- Week 1: “A Roadmap from There to Here”—moving properly from scriptural context to modern application
- Week 2: “Observe and Interpret”—seeing what’s in the text and knowing what it means
- Week 3: “Find the Gospel”—grasping appropriate Christ-connections in every passage
- Week 4: “Apply”—applying the text properly to your life
- Week 5: “Organize Your Thoughts On Paper”—documenting what you gain from the text
- **Week 6: “What is the Bible”—articulating why you should trust what you learn from the Bible**
- Week 7: “Unlocking the Old and New Testaments”—understanding the unique characteristics of the Old and New Testaments
- Week 8: “Recognizing Biblical Genres”—learning how a text’s genre affects its meaning
- Week 9: “Digging Deeper Into the Text”—gaining specialized tools for deeper study
- Week 10: “Difficult and Familiar Passages”—avoiding both an overly apprehensive and an overly casual approach to the texts

Hermeneutics, Week 6: What is the Bible (know portion)

I. We believe the Bible is _____.

A. Christians _____ it.

- i. “All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.”—2 Timothy 3:16–17
- ii. “[the church is] built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone”—Ephesians 2:20
- iii. “I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.”—Psalm 119:11
- iv. “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”—Psalm 119:105

B. Non-Christians _____ it.

- i. “For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot.”—Romans 8:7
- ii. “And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. ²⁰For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed.” — John 3:19–20

- C. Christians should have _____ in it.
- i. "My word goes out from my mouth and it will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it." — Isaiah 55:11
 - ii. "the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." — Hebrews 4:12

II. Can you _____ you trust the Bible?

A. O.T.E.V.

- i. **Origin**—The Bible came from _____,
- ii. **Transmission**—We got it by the _____ of the _____.
- iii. **Exclusion**—We kept _____ out
 - a. _____ means rule or guideline
 - b. Four Criteria for Canonicity
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
- iv. **Verification**—We have a lot of _____.
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____
 6. _____
 7. _____
 8. _____
 9. _____
 10. _____

Hermeneutics, Week 6: What is the Bible (do portion)

In your groups, study the passage provided. The answers to some questions may not be immediately evident. See if you can first find the answers in Scripture. If not, feel free to use a study Bible or commentary. Recommended online helps—biblehub.com, biblegateway.com, blueletterbible.org

1. Read 2 Timothy 3:10–17.

2. Have someone pray for the group.

3. Observe the text.

- A. Who wrote the text? To whom? Who is speaking in the text? To whom?
- B. What is being said? (the main point)
- C. Where is it taking place in the context of Scripture?
- D. Why is the speaker saying what he is saying?

4. Interpret the text

- A. How does the context of this passage aid your understanding of the text?
- B. Scripture interprets Scripture.
 - i. How does the immediate context (2 Timothy), the covenantal context (the New Testament), and the canonical context (the whole Bible) help inform your understanding of this passage?
 - ii. Do you notice any apparent contradictions between this passage and another passage that might need explanation?
- C. Is there an obscure idea in this passage that someone might be tempted to use wrongly as a basis for theological conviction?
- D. What was the author's intent with the passage? Similarly, what was the author's main idea in the passage?

5. Apply the text—S.P.E.C.K.A.

1. Is there a **sin** to avoid?
2. Are there **promises** to claim?
3. Is there an **example** to follow?
4. Is there a **command** to obey?
5. What should I **know** about God, myself, or others?
6. Are there other ways I should **apply** this text?

